GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2790
ANSWERED ON:05.12.2002
HYDRO-ELECTRIC PROJECTS IN CAUVERY BASIN
SRIKANTA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Union Government to set up hydro-electric project in the Cauvery Basin;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to clear this project?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA)
(a) to (c) : No proposal of hydro-electric project in Cauvery Basin is pending withCentral Electricity Authority for clearance. However, 11 schemes with an aggregate capacity of 2170 MW in Cauvery Basin have been returned to the concerned projectauthorities with a request to re-submit the schemes after the inter-state disputes have been resolved between the concerned States.
In order to take up the integrated development of hydro-electric projects based on the interim order of the Cauvery Water Dispute Tribunal, the National Hydro- electric Power Corporation (NHPC) prepared a plan for optimal utilization of theuntapped hydro potential estimated at 1140 MW in respect of four projects on the Cauvery river. With the consent of the Governments of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu, NHPC was requested on 6.1.2001 to initiate action for survey, investigation andpreparation of Detailed Project Reports of Cauvery Power Projects.Ministry of Environment & Forests has, however, rejected the proposal for site clearance in respect of Mekedatu, Rasimanal and Hogenakkal projects as the proposed project sites/areas areeither fully or partially coming within the Cauvery Wildlife Sanctuary. Though site clearance for Stage-I in respect of Shivasamudram Project has been accorded, the Government of Tamil Nadu have been insist on execution of all the four projects as a `package` and not on stand alone basis.